

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 01273 101851Z
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-01 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 /113 W

-----059663 110228Z /75

R 100840Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2215
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 1273

USEEC

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, DTRD, NL
SUBJ: DUTCH CANNED HAM EXPORTS TO U.S.

1. AG OFFICERS ATTENDED MAR 8 PUBLIC MEETING OF DUTCH PRODUCT BOARD FOR LIVESTOCK AND MEAT. MAJOR ITEM FOR DISCUSSION WAS DECLINING DUTCH HAM EXPORTS TO U.S. DISCUSSION FOCUSSED AROUND U.S. IMPORT STATISTICS WHICH WHOWED NEARLY 40 PERCENT DECLINE IN DUTCH CANNED HAM EXPORTS TO USA IN CY 1977, AS COMPARED TO CY 1976.

2. FOLLOWING REASONS WERE CITED FOR DECLINING DUTCH EXPORT POSTURE:

1) DUTCH INDUSTRY POINTED OUT THAT PRODUCTION WITHIN THE U.S. HAD EXPANDED SUBSTANTIALLY IN 1977, THUS CAUSING LOWER OVERALL IMPORTS, 2) PRICE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN LOCAL (US) AND IMPORTED HAMS HAS INCREASED TO MORE THAN \$0.25 PER POUND, 3) REVALUATION OF GUILDER AGAINST DOLLAR.

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3. BASED ON ABOVE POINTS, DUTCH INDUSTRY MADE PLEA FOR "ADAPTATION" OF THIRD COUNTRY SUBSIDIES. PRODUCT BOARD CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT NETHERLANDS HAD ALREADY APPROACHED EC COMMISSION, BUT ADJUSTMENT OF SUBSIDY NOT POSSIBLE WITHIN 3 MONTHS. FURTHERMORE, DUTCH EXPECT SIGNIFICANT OPPOSITION FROM DANES. DEVALUATION OF DOLLAR HAS NOT HAD AS SEVERE AN EFFECT ON DENMARK AS ON HOLLAND,

AND DANES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HOLD THEIR OWN IN U.S. MARKET.
BOTH COUNTRIES WELL AWARE OF U.S. STAND RE COUNTERVAILING
DUTIES. DANES CAN APPARENTLY "LIVE WITH" EXISTING SUBSIDY
BUT DUTCH FEEL THAT UNLESS IT IS NOT SET CONSIDERABLY
ABOVE PRESENT RATE OF 2.00 GUILDERS, DUTCH HAM WILL BE COMPLETELY
SHUT-OUT OF U.S. MARKET IN NEAR FUTURE. ON THIS BASIS,
DUTCH INDUSTRY REPEATED URGENT REQUEST TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT
EXPORT SUBSIDY BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.
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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 10 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, NL, US
To: STATE USEEC
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